(b) Government have publicly indicated their willingness to talk to anyone to find a solution to the Punjab problem without compromising the integrity and unity of the country and the basic principles of the Constitution. The talks held by Prime Minister with Shri Mann were a step in that direction. There was, however, no agenda for the meeting nor was any commitment made. The Memorandum submitted by Shri Maan at that time did not make any reference to Article 51 of the Constitution. Any further discussions in this regard will be open.

(c) There was no communal violence in Punjab and therefore no comparison is possible.

Backlog of unemployed

851. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRIMATI MIRA DAS:
SHRI SOM PAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state what is the expected backlog of unemployment at the end of the current and the ensuing plan and what would be the segment of educated unemployed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): The rate of growth of 3 per cent per annum for employment over the 1990s, envisaged in the Eighth Plan Approach document, is based on the goal of achieving near full employment by 2000 A.D. Estimates of expected backlog of unemployment at the end of the Eighth Plan have not been made.

Bomb blast in Dehradun Bound DTC Bus near Duhai in Uttar Pradesh

852. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL:
CHOWDHARY HARI SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a powerful bomb ripped apart a Delhi-Dehradun bound DTC bus near Duhai village, Ghaziabad on 19th February, 1991;

(b) if so, the number of persons dead or injured due to bomb blast in the bus;

(c) whether Government have since investigated the clue behind this blast;

(d) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(e) the compensation paid by Government to the next of the kin in this blast; and

(f) whether police have arrested any culprits in this case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (f) The information is being obtained from the Government of Uttar Pradesh and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Creation of National Reconstruction Fund

853. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to involve the voluntary organisations to come forward to help the nation tide over the present economic crisis, especially in the context of Gulf War;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in the light of the above, Government propose to create a National Reconstruction Fund;

(c) if so, what would be its Modus-Operandi;

(d) the amount of contributions received, if any so far in the fund; and

(e) the steps being taken by Government to encourage voluntary contributions in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (e) The President in his address to the Nation on the eve of Republic Day this year indicated the need for mobilising additional resources for national development. He felt that raising additional resources through the budget should be supplemented by voluntary contributions from the citizens. He expressed the view that Government may constitute a National Reconstruction Fund and accept voluntary contributions for the purpose of sustaining development activities.

Annual plan outlay for Bihar

854. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Annual Plan (1991-92) for Bihar has been finalised;

(b) if so, the outlay and other broad features thereof; and

(c) the contemplated rate of industrial and agricultural growth and the targets fixed for achievement thereof in different areas of development?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) and (b) Outlay for the Annual Plan (1991-92) of Bihar has been fixed at Rs. 2251 crores. Broad features of the plan are among other things emphasis on Irrigation and Flood Control, Energy, development of rural areas and human resources.

(c) Targets fixed for the agriculture sector is given in the enclosed statement. Similar information for other sectors is not available. [*See* Appendix CLVII, Annexure No. 21]

Negative returns in Cement Industry

855. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Cement industry has been registering negative returns year after year;

(b) if so, what was the net return earned by the Cement industry during 1988-89, 1980-90 and 1990-91; and

(c) what steps are contemplated by Government to make the industry viable enough to enable it to play its desired role since cement is a basic item essential for economic and social development of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) and (b) No study has been conducted by the Government about the net returns earned by the cement industry during 1988-89, 1989-90 & 1990-91. However, as per RBI reports, the post-tax returns on net-worth of cement industry was (—) 11.3 per cent during 1988-89.

(c) Proposals for increasing the installed capacity of cement are being liberally approved. Through continuous monitoring it is also ensured that infrastructural support in terms of coal, power and railway wagons is being adequately provided for maximisation of production and fuller capacity utilisation.

International seminar on cement and building materials organised by NCCBM

856. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHADRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether at the third international seminar on Cement and building materials organised by National Council for Cement and Building Materials on the 21st January, 1991, it was observed that the recent increase in cement price was disproportionate to the increase in costs of imports;

(b) if so, what steps were suggested to reduce the prices of cement; and Government's response thereto; and

(c) what steps have since been taken to bring down the cement prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) In the third International Seminar, mention was made of the rising trend of cement prices.